

# Minutes of 124th BHNW Meeting

28<sup>th</sup> November 2013

Bill Crocker	Chair	Lesley Ashley	Fouracre
Ron Coleman	Treasurer	Lynda & Chris Stone	Oakdale
Rose Cane	Secretary	Graeme Dundas	Queensholm
Mark Garland	Website & Social Media	Mark Venables	Sandringham
Tom McIntyre	PCSO	Martyn Thomas	Bury Hill

## **Item 1 Welcome, Introductions and Apologies**

Apologies received from Julie Gould, Richard Old, Tom and Sue Harris. Lyn O'Brien (new coordinator Badminton)

Nothing heard Tim Davies, Graham Ball (adjacent NHW)

Vacancies: Bromleaze, Heathfields, Bury View (tbc) PRO, Speed Watch Leader, GONE project leader.

**Note change of agenda order** to allow Tom to leave to continue his duties.

## **Item 3 Neighbourhood Police/Safer Reports and Priorities**

Areas of concern:

- Slight rise in theft from motor vehicles
- Burglaries from unlit houses

There has been a reduction in crime generally although with the street lights being turned off the perception is that crime has increased. In fact most burglaries are taking place Monday to Friday during the day when the homeowners are at work or in the case of criminal damage at pub closing time.

Plain clothes detectives are out on the cycle path stopping moped riders.

Tom is to check out the mugging on the 4/10/13 that was reported in the Evening Post. He was not aware of it but it may have happened when he was on leave.

Safer Stronger Meeting will take place Thursday 5/12/13 at Downend Baptist Church. The following one will be at Bromley Heath Junior School.

The Police team will change in January 2014. There will be one Chief Superintendent for Bath and South Glos. and one Inspector for Filton, Chipping Sodbury, Downend and Bromley Heath. Tom will be moving to Cadbury Heath where there is a crime wave. Speedwell fire station is to close. Keynsham will also close and reopen on the Ring Road.

Tom left the meeting before the next item.

## **Item 2 Minutes of Last Meeting**

Agreed as a true and accurate record.

Matters arising - all matters arising are agenda items.

#### **Item 4 Part Night Street Lighting**

There has been considerable press coverage regarding the street lights in parts of South Glos. being switched off early due to the end of British Summer Time. It would seem that some street lights are sensor driven and others require a manual change. These are now back to the routine of going out somewhere between 11.40pm and midnight. (I have just read an article stating some were faulty and that SGC were chasing compensation). The criteria for the lights remaining on all night is only in respect of areas where traffic calming measures have been installed.

A new South Glos. Residents' Group has been set up on Facebook and a number of people in this group are very concerned about the effects of part night street Lighting. They have since launched a successful campaign, gaining media coverage including on BBC Radio Bristol. They have also started a petition which currently has over 1,000 signatures. Residents who are concerned about part night street lighting should look into this group and sign the petition.

At the recent SSCG meeting, Mark G raised for the second time the issue about the Summer 2012 edition of the Downend and Bromley Heath Parish Council Newsletter which contained an article on the introduction of part night street lighting, citing concerns of impartiality and the reproduction of a statement that crime figures would be reduced if the lights were switched off. At a recent SSCG meeting South Glos. Councillor James Hunt stated this was not the case. This would mean the article was unintentionally misleading. Mark called for an apology to be printed to residents. The most recent D&BH Parish Council Newsletter makes reference to this. While it stops short of an apology it restates that it was never the intention to mislead residents.

#### **Item 5 Speed Watch and GONE**

Nobody has come forward.

#### **Item 6 Avon and Somerset Watch**

Nothing heard

#### **Item 7 Reports**

1. **Newsletter** –Tom has drafted the next newsletter. Due to the timing will probably be Autumn/Winter which falls in line with the number of issues for the previous year.
2. **Website** Update of minutes, financials, committee list etc. coming soon
3. **Social Media** quite active with 69 members on Facebook
4. **PRO** – Nothing to report
5. **Treasurer.** Finances are as the report tabled.
6. **Speed visor.** The folder remains empty. Rose Cane trying to find a contact at SGC. However, the folder may be empty as there are not any speed visors in the area at present.  
**Action Rose**
7. **No Cold Caller update.** The application form is to be sent to Julie Gould for completion in respect of Quakers Road.
  - a. SGC have advised that there is another scheme called Community Doorstep Control Zone. The main difference is that the householder pays for the paperwork and signage. It works out at £1.40 per household. This is particularly useful where an area wants the support of the zone but there is no history of doorstep crime. Further consideration will be given to this on the basis that the watch may be able to obtain a grant to fund it on behalf of the householders. The Watch needs to be sure that SGC can cope with a large area applying together.  
**Action Rose**
8. **Community Plan and THaT.** Last meeting didn't happen. Parish thinking might not continue with the Sub Group. However, Parish can't apply for funding so Sub Group would need to continue for that purpose. Awaiting the outcome.

**9. Committee Members.**

a) **Common Interest.** Immobilise.com item for newsletter or leaflet drop.

b) Invite contacts for first part of future meetings. Item for Newsletter.

**Action Bill**

c) **Welcome packs.** Martyn Thomas requested 4 for Bury Hill View

**Action Bill**

**10. BHRAG/friends of the park.** Nothing to report

**Item 8 AOB**

Horses are still leaving manure on the track. No signage as yet but this could be due to SGC's policy of reducing signage.

**Action Bill**

Contact list to include Bill Bacon as a past member and delete Staple Hill Press.

**Action Bill**

Dennis Hewson was the caretaker of 2 engraving sets belonging to the Watch. Does anybody know where they are?

**Action Bill**

**Item 9 Date of next meeting**

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2014 7.45 at St Augustine's Church - Meeting Room

Meeting closed at 9.30 PM

Signed Bill Crocker  
Chair